



AMERICAN HUMANE
SOCIETY RESCUE. CARE. PROTECT.

IMPACT REPORT 2025





From opening life-saving sanctuaries in Africa and Florida to delivering hope, healing and protection to animals around the world, 2025 was a year defined by compassion in action, global impact and lives forever changed.



Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2025, I am filled with deep gratitude for the generosity, compassion and shared commitment of our friends and partners. Because of you, our donors, supporters, certified entities and volunteers, American Humane Society has transformed care into action and hope into measurable impact. Together, we have safeguarded the welfare of more than 1.7 billion animals worldwide, helping to ensure they are rescued, cared for and protected.

American Humane Society remains a trusted force for healing, resilience and second chances. At our newly opened Sanctuary in Florida, donor support provides a safe haven for animals in need while fueling life-changing programs such as Pups4Patriots™, which pairs highly-trained service dogs with veterans and retired first responders. Your investment has strengthened our disaster response efforts, enabling our Rescue Team to deploy quickly to wildfires in Los Angeles, saving displaced pets and supporting families during their most vulnerable moments. Every wellness clinic, service dog trained and animal rescued is a direct reflection of your compassion in action.

On an international scale, philanthropic leadership has enabled Global Humane Society to expand its reach to 95 countries and territories, advancing a vision where animals, wildlife and ecosystems can flourish together. This year marked a significant milestone with the opening of our first office in the European Union. This new hub strengthens collaboration with governments, NGOs and industry leaders, extending our science-based standards and humane practices across continents. In Africa, the Global Humane Conservation Fund of Africa opened the Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve to reconnect fragmented habitats and foster biodiversity. These investments also continue to protect endangered species, restore habitats and deliver emergency veterinary care to animals harmed by poaching or human-wildlife conflict.

2025 was one of the most exceptional years in our nearly 150-year history, one that honored our legacy while boldly advancing the future of animal welfare. As we expand our impact, strengthen our voice and deepen our commitment to the lives we serve, we are guided by a renewed sense of purpose. None of this impact would be possible without you. Your philanthropic support is the driving force behind every rescue, every certification and every life saved. By choosing to invest in compassion, you are advancing a world where animals are protected, veterans are supported, ecosystems are preserved and kindness leads the way.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for standing with us as partners in change. Together we will continue to build a future where animals are safe, valued and loved, and where compassion creates lasting impact for generations to come.

With gratitude and hope,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robin R. Ganzert".

Robin R. Ganzert, Ph.D.
President and CEO
American Humane Society & Global Humane Society





More than
1.7 BILLION ANIMALS

rescued, cared for and protected annually



4.66 MILLION ANIMALS
per day

3,234 ANIMALS
per minute

This scale of impact makes us the most effective animal welfare organization in the world!



Zuko, Khukhula, Zola and Amira — four cheetah cubs and a hopeful step forward for cheetah conservation through our Global Humane Conservation Fund of Africa rewilding collaboration.



Celebrating Our First Year as American Humane Society

In January 2025, American Humane officially became American Humane Society, reflecting our long-standing commitment to compassion, credibility and leadership in animal welfare. This rebrand united our mission under Rescue. Care. Protect., strengthening the foundation you helped build and setting the stage for bold growth, impacting billions of animals around the world.

With your continued support, we'll continue delivering on our mission to build a better future for billions of animals worldwide.

AMERICAN*HUMANE
FIRST TO SERVE®



Celebrating 1 Year!

Our rebrand marked more than a name change. It powered our most impactful year yet, accelerating rescue, care and protection when animals need it most.





Expanding Our Reach Around the World

Global Humane Society is now active in 95 countries worldwide, with programs operating in 71 countries across six continents.

As the international arm of American Humane Society, Global Humane Society advances a bold vision: a world where animals are protected, respected and given the opportunity to thrive. Across continents and cultures, our life-changing programs guide the humane treatment of animals in the wild and in human care, on farms, in zoos and aquariums, in film and television production, in working animal environments and in times of crisis and rescue. Wherever animals are vulnerable, Global Humane Society is there, bringing science, compassion and proven standards of care.

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our donors and partners, we have dramatically expanded our global footprint. Today, we are proud to operate programs in 71 countries and to have reached 95 nations through rescue missions, certification programs, conservation partnerships and humane advocacy.

A milestone in this expansion is the opening of our European Union representative office in Brussels, Belgium. This office serves as a strategic hub for collaboration with EU institutions, policymakers, scientists and NGO partners, amplifying our science-based expertise and accelerating progress for animals across Europe and beyond. While our presence in Europe has long been established through certifying zoos and aquariums and safeguarding animals in film and television productions, our Brussels office marks a new era of global leadership, strengthening policy engagement, deepening partnerships and expanding our capacity to drive meaningful, measurable impact.

More than ever before, Global Humane Society is on the ground, rescuing animals in crisis, protecting wildlife and biodiversity, strengthening standards of care and building sustainable systems that endure.

Because of you, our reach continues to grow.
 Because of you, animals around the world are safer.
 Because of you, compassion is becoming a global standard.

Together, we are building a more humane world.



In Florida, we are developing a 15-acre animal Sanctuary, which will serve as a temporary haven for rescue and service animals.

-  GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS
-  AMERICAN/GLOBAL HUMANE SOCIETY OFFICES
-  NEW PROGRAMS LAUNCHED
-  COUNTRIES WHERE WE HAVE RESCUED, CARED FOR AND PROTECTED ANIMALS SINCE 2021
-  ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES REACHED SINCE 2021





In Brussels, we opened our first office in the EU, establishing a stronger presence and forging relationships with EU leaders and diplomats.



In India, Vantara became the first Global Humane Certified™ Conservation Center.



In Uganda, our Elephant and Wildlife Rescue Unit helped save more than 130 animals.



In the Eastern Cape of South Africa, we opened the Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve, giving wildlife more space to thrive.



NAMED GIFT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT THE SANCTUARY

Create a lasting legacy while supporting our programs and animals in need.

To learn more, please call our Philanthropy Team at 866-242-1877.



The American Humane Society Sanctuary in Florida and the Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve in South Africa

Two sanctuaries, one mission brought to life

In April 2025, we broke ground on, not just one but two, incredible animal sanctuaries that will help us rescue, care for and protect more animals..

The American Humane Society Sanctuary in Florida

In 2025, we reached an incredible milestone at our Sanctuary in Palm City, Florida, generously supported by the Kazma Family Foundation. It will soon become the national training headquarters for the Pups4Patriots™ program and a cornerstone of our Rescue Program. Thanks to the tireless dedication of our team, the steadfast generosity of Sam Rose, Linda and Mike Curb of the Mike Curb Foundation, the Kazma Family Foundation, Brian O’Conner, John and Nancy Payne and the support of countless compassionate donors and friends, we are one step closer to advancing our critical programs to new heights.

This is a place where compassion is not just a word — it is a way of life.

As a model for the modern humane movement, the Sanctuary will serve as a haven for animals in need while expanding some of our vital programs, including:

PUPS4PATRIOTS SERVICE DOG TRAINING

Our first-ever residential service dog training program will provide a greater number of life-changing service dogs to veterans and retired first responders living with PTS and/or TBI.

DISASTER RESPONSE & ANIMAL RESCUE TRAINING

We provide space to prepare volunteers and first responders for deployment in the wake of natural disasters, delivering rapid, effective aid for animals in dire need.

SANCTUARY FOR ALL

We utilize the tranquility of the property for military veteran retreats with a focus on group bonding, program enhancement and additional training for our service dog teams.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our property showcases our mission and programs through small gatherings and in-depth conversations that serve to expand our role in the humane movement.

The Betty White Healing Garden honors Betty’s legacy as a champion for animal welfare. She served as a board member and passionate supporter of AHS for 70 years.



A special thank you to the Kazma Family Foundation for their generous support of the Sanctuary.

The Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve

In South Africa, Global Humane Society established the Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve within the Bushman's River Biodiversity Corridor.

This initiative embodies the long-term vision of Global Humane Society to create a future where wildlife is protected, ecosystems are restored and biodiversity is safeguarded for generations to come. This corridor, and the investment we have made, is about so much more than land. The Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve is a powerful pledge that shows that conservation is not just a dream — it's a movement built on action, compassion and science.

A landmark agreement was signed to establish the preserve by cutting fences with the neighboring property. This opened 682 acres of protected land for species to roam, which will include endangered elephants and black and white rhinos.

For too long, fences have fragmented wild places and constricted species' ability to thrive in their natural environments. In just the first few months since acquiring the land, we have made significant strides toward restoring the landscape and preparing for the reintroduction of wildlife.

The Sanctuary and the Brad and Alice Andrews Preserve stand as beacons of hope. They are more than just places – they are a promise of love and healing. With these new homes, we are reaffirming our commitment supporting countless animals, helping to ensure a future space where kindness prevails.





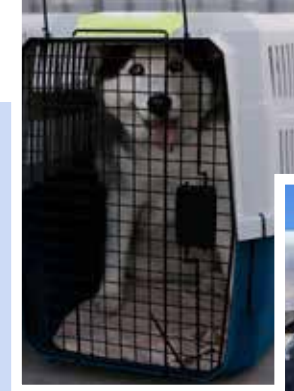
American Humane Society Rescue

LA wildfires: saving animals in crisis

When disaster strikes, animals are often among the most vulnerable. In early 2025, devastating wildfires across the Los Angeles region displaced families, destroyed homes and left countless animals in need of urgent care and protection.

Because of supporters like you, we mobilized quickly to meet the moment. Our teams rescued animals from dangerous conditions, aided families during evacuations and helped reunite pets with the people who love them.

Our Rescue Team was on the ground as fires threatened homes and entire neighborhoods. With a long-established presence in Los Angeles through our No Animals Were Harmed® program, we already had staff, infrastructure and trusted local relationships in place. That local footprint allowed us to respond immediately. Alongside the rapid deployment of our Rescue Team, Los Angeles-based staff shifted into humanitarian relief roles, creating an all-hands-on-deck effort focused on delivering care, compassion and stability during an incredibly difficult time.



Thank you to our incredible supporters, volunteers and corporate sponsors who helped provide critical veterinary care and pet supplies:

Barkworthies, Brutus Bone Broth, Costco Wholesale, Destination Pet Foundation, Ethos Veterinary Health, Hill's, The Honest Kitchen, Lulu's Fund, Mars, Inc., National Veterinary Associates, Nylabone, PEDIGREE Foundation, PetSmart Charities, part of the Timothy T. Day Foundation, Universal Studios and Zoetis.



Our impact

 **340+**

shelter animals transported from LA through three life-saving flights together with Wings of Rescue and Paws For Life K-9 Rescue

 **740+**

community service calls answered

 **1,660+**

welfare checks conducted, delivering food, water and care to animals left behind in evacuation zones

 **1,060+**

pets reunited with their families

 **185+**

animals cared for and/or examined at our free Wellness clinic, American Red Cross Shelters and Pasadena Humane

 **63,300+**

pet meals provided to animals in need

 **1,330+**

care packages distributed, helping ensure access to food, leashes, crates and more

Real Stories From the Field

Behind every response effort is a family, an animal and a moment when care and compassion mattered most.



Watch our teams in action and experience the courage, care and compassion behind our life-saving work.



Maxwell's survival story

When wildfires forced Maxwell's family to evacuate without him, they searched for weeks before finding him scared and alone in the ruins. Thanks to our rescue team, Maxwell received urgent care and the support he needed to recover, bringing his family overwhelming relief.



Dudette's road to recovery

Dudette arrived at an American Red Cross shelter struggling to breathe. Working closely with shelter staff, we coordinated veterinary care that helped Dudette recover and return to good spirits.



Opal's journey to safety

After losing their home to the wildfires, Ethan and his dog Opal found refuge at a local Marriott hotel. We provided food and essential supplies, offering comfort during this difficult time.

Creating hope through wellness clinics

At our free Pet Wellness Clinic in Los Angeles, volunteer veterinarians provided wellness exams and vaccinations for animals impacted by the wildfires. Families left with healthier animals and care packages filled with food, leashes, bowls, blankets and other essential supplies.



Helping pets and families when they need it most

We joined World Central Kitchen at community distribution events to support families affected by the wildfires. While meals were provided for people, our teams helped ensure animals also had access to food and essential supplies, offering care and stability during recovery.



We are glad to work alongside American Humane Society and help serve the Los Angeles community impacted by these devastating wildfires.

Jennifer Strickland-Fowler,
CEO, Destination Pet

Prepared to respond together

We worked alongside the American National Red Cross to support families and the animals who depend on them. From shelter care to veterinary coordination, this collaboration helped ensure animals were not separated from the people who love them during crisis.

We then formalized this relationship through a multi-year Memorandum of Understanding, building on the trust and collaboration already in place. This agreement helps animal care remain part of disaster sheltering and preparedness, so families can stay together and recover side by side when emergencies occur.



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Delivering Critical Veterinary Care in Texas

When American Humane Society's Rescue Team arrived at the scene of a massive animal neglect case in Texas, the urgency was unmistakable. More than 100 animals, mainly horses and donkeys, needed immediate, life-saving care. Many of the animals had gone far too long without proper nutrition, medical attention or basic care. **In that moment, our mission was simple but profound: relieve suffering, restore health and offer these animals the compassion they had been denied.**

Working side by side with five veterinarians, our expert team conducted thorough medical assessments of each animal, carefully documenting their condition and prioritizing those most in need. We administered vaccines to protect against disease, cleaned wounds and treated injuries and illnesses.

Additionally, we transferred dozens of horses and donkeys off the property to safe locations where they could receive continued veterinary care, nourishing food and the time they needed to heal.

Today, our work continues through close collaboration with local organizations to place these animals into loving, forever homes where they will be properly cared for and cherished. Each successful placement represents more than a new beginning — it is a promise kept.

This rescue embodies the heart of American Humane Society's mission: to show up in moments of crisis, to provide comfort and healing, and to ensure every animal is treated with dignity and compassion. Because of our supporters, these animals now have something they may never have known before — hope.

This miniature horse, Ella, was adopted by one of our animal care contractors, who also helped on-site during the deployment. Ella is now loving life on a farm with her family.



Meet Spirit

Spirit is a remarkable draft horse who is central to the animal neglect investigation. When our rescue team and law enforcement saw Spirit was underweight, had a gaping, untreated wound on his leg and was living in unsanitary conditions, they knew immediate intervention was needed.

During the deployment, veterinarians provided urgent care, treated his injuries and administered vaccines to support his long-term recovery.

Today, Spirit is flourishing at a local Texas rescue and is now receiving daily care, nourishment and kindness, helping him gain back his health with each passing day.

 **628** pets served

 **518** vaccinations administered

 **206** microchips placed

 **310** animals spayed/neutered

In partnership with Mars, PEDIGREE Foundation, Banfield, VCA and Zoetis, we provided wellness checks, vaccines and preparedness supplies.

During our spay/neuter campaign, we served more cats than ever before, helping reduce stray cat and dog populations. These efforts will help prevent thousands of unwanted kittens and puppies from being born into hardship.

Animal Emergency Services Training

Our Animal Emergency Services Training is a Department of Homeland Security (DHS)-approved, two-day course on the fundamentals of disaster response.

 **21** trainings

 **500** attendees

Strengthening Communities Through Wellness Care and Emergency Preparedness

We continue our commitment to pets and the families who love them by bringing free wellness clinics to disaster-prone communities with the support of PEDIGREE Foundation, Mars, Banfield Pet Hospital, Zoetis and VCA Animal Hospitals. These clinics deliver essential veterinary care and resources, helping pets remain healthy and families stay prepared when disasters strike.



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Local families brought their cats and dogs to receive free wellness exams, vaccinations, flea and tick prevention and microchipping. Families also went home with care packages filled with food, treats, leashes, bowls and blankets.

BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA

We brought our free wellness clinic to an area critically underserved in veterinary services, providing life-saving care to help pets stay safe through hurricane season and beyond. The community response underscored a need for accessible pet care for all.

The goal is simple: expand access to essential care and help families feel prepared for emergencies. **Together, we're safeguarding animals nationwide, one tail wag at a time.**



GLOBAL COMPASSION IN ACTION

Training to protect animals when it matters most

Through the Mars Ambassador Program, Mars employees from around the world traveled to our Sanctuary in Florida for hands-on Animal Emergency Services training led by our Rescue Team.



I am deeply grateful to American Humane Society for generously sharing their expertise and to the Mars Ambassador Program for making this experience possible. It was truly inspiring to witness how teamwork and professional excellence come together to protect animals when they need us most.

Inna Usachova, Mars Ambassador



From left to right: Aneta Matulova (Czech Republic), Karunakar Reddy (India), Inna Usachova (Ukraine), Teresa Swindell (US) and Diana Duncan (US), Mars Ambassadors.

Second Chance® Grant Program

Helping critically ill or injured animals who have nowhere else to turn

Local shelters and rescue groups are doing heroic work every day – and some especially tragic cases overwhelm them with staggering expenses while caring for animals in desperate need. **Our Second Chance Grant Program helps offset the cost of veterinary care for rescued animals who are victims of cruelty or neglect.** These grants help give animals a second chance at life when they have nowhere else to turn.

Thank you to our partners at The Honest Kitchen and Lulu's Fund, part of the Timothy T. Day Foundation for their support of this life-saving program, and to our generous donors – you help us save lives.

Meet three very special survivors and their stories of resilience:

HOPE FOUND NELLIE IN A PARK

Silenced and abandoned

At just five months old, Nellie was found abandoned in a park. She was weak, starving and suffering from a horrific bullet wound to her tiny throat. **Alone and helpless, she had no way to cry out for help.** Without urgent medical care, Nellie would not have survived.

Thanks to a local rescue and a Second Chance Grant, she received the life-saving medical care she desperately needed. Against all odds, Nellie fought to regain her health and today she is in a happy, loving home.





LOUIS'S TRIUMPH

Where love outshines scars

Tragically, Louis was a victim of dogfighting. When rescuers found him, his body was covered in deep wounds. Louis was exhausted, injured and discarded as if his precious life did not matter. Our Second Chance Grant helped cover the cost of his critical medical care, including wound flushing, antibiotics, pain management and hydrotherapy.

Despite the pain he endured, his heart remained full of love and trust. Every day of his recovery, his wounds closed a bit more and his remarkable spirit shined brighter. Louis even wagged his tail when his caregivers approached. Now, Louis is living with a loving foster family, who is in the process of adopting him.



LEONIDAS'S MIRACLE OF SURVIVAL

From the brink of death

When rescuers found Leonidas at the bottom of a trash can on a 95-degree day in Texas, he was struggling for his next breath. Leonidas was starving, suffering from severe infections and scabies, seizing and unable to stand or hold his head up. The local animal control team rushed him to a cat sanctuary, where the veterinarians confirmed he was critically ill and in need of extensive care.

Rescuers and the veterinary team never gave up on him and, thanks to a Second Chance Grant, he was able to have a chance at life. Today, Leonidas is healthy, adopted and living with his new, loving family.





AMERICAN HUMANE MILITARY WORKING DOG REUNIFICATION



75

Military Working Dog
teams reunited to date



Military Working Dog Reunifications

Bringing heroes on both ends of the leash back together

For nearly 110 years, American Humane Society has been dedicated to supporting veterans and the Military Working Dogs (MWDs) who serve with dedication alongside them. We reunite retired MWDs to be adopted by their former handlers.

Reuniting our canine military heroes and their former handlers

Thanks to your generous support, 12 retired MWDs were reunited with their former handlers in 2025, with their veterinary bills covered for life and are now enjoying the loving and dignified retirement they deserve. Meet a few of these remarkable MWDs here.

U.S. ARMY SPC KAMERON AND ATILA

We were honored to support Attila, a brave six-year-old German Shepherd, who was officially welcomed into the family of his former handler, U.S. Army SPC Kameron of Colorado. After serving side-by-side for four years on critical missions, including explosive detection at major events such as a presidential inauguration, Attila had to retire at a young age due to health issues.

“Words don’t describe how great it feels to have him home with us,” said SPC Kameron. Attila will enjoy the rest of his days as a cherished family member, playing gently with Kameron’s children and other dogs, now able to relax on the couch and enjoy life as a family dog – his working years are over!



U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL SERGEANT DAKOTA AND JOKER

U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant (TSgt) and Kennel Master Dakota was reunited with his beloved MWD, Joker.

The pair served together for nearly three years, including through the COVID-19 pandemic, when military handlers often saw their K-9s more frequently than their families. **TSgt Dakota and Joker took part in explosive detection sweeps with the secret service, helping protect the U.S. president, vice president and first lady.**

To ensure a smooth transition, our team traveled to Hawaii to pick Joker up and safely brought him all the way to Oklahoma so that TSgt Dakota could be reunited with his canine companion.



U.S. MARINE CORP SERGEANT JUSTIN AND ANGEL

For a decade, an adorable, black Labrador Retriever named Angel served as a dedicated and fearless MWD, serving both the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Air Force with unwavering loyalty.

Trained as an off-leash explosive detection dog, her keen nose and steadfast spirit played a vital role in ensuring the safety of those around her. **From Japan to Korea, she served with diligence, always ready to take on the next mission.** Throughout her career, she had multiple handlers, but none were quite like her first, Sergeant Justin. Their bond was forged through challenges and triumphs, learning and growing together. After years apart, Justin and Angel reunited in Texas, where she is experiencing the joys of a well-earned retirement.

U.S. AIR FORCE STAFF SERGEANT TARA AND ERIKA

Retired MWD Erika had a heartwarming reunion with her former handler, Staff Sergeant Tara of the U.S. Air Force, in San Antonio, Texas. Erika, an eight-year-old Belgian Malinois, served alongside SSgt. Tara for nearly two years, both on a military base in New Jersey and during overseas deployments, including Kuwait and Vietnam. Trained in suspect apprehension and detection, Erika played a crucial role in protecting service members and saving lives.

From the moment they were paired, SSgt. Tara knew there was something special about Erika. **“I loved her from the start, and our bond grew into something extraordinary as we trained and worked side by side,” Tara shared.** Their connection was immediate and powerful, built on trust, teamwork and unwavering dedication.



U.S. ARMY STAFF SERGEANT KRISTIN AND FRENKY

Frenky and Kristin served together for over four years, including combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. During their first mission with U.S. Special Forces, the team encountered sniper fire and mortar rounds, tragically resulting in several American casualties. Frenky remained calm and continued his vital work searching for explosives, earning the respect and appreciation of the Special Forces team. Kristin is now one of two drill sergeants for the entire U.S. Army’s military working dog program.



See MWD Frenky reunite with his former handler, Sgt. Kristin, on Good Morning America!



Pups4Patriots™ Program

Changing lives, restoring hope and healing heroes

American Humane Society's Pups4Patriots Program trains highly-skilled service dogs and pairs them with U.S. veterans and retired first responders suffering from service-related post-traumatic stress (PTS), traumatic brain injury (TBI) and/or military sexual trauma (MST). Research shows that service dogs can reduce stress, anxiety and depression, ease social reintegration, provide comfort and restore confidence for these individuals. These dogs are true lifelines.

Thanks to your generous support, 13 service dogs were trained and paired this year, providing companionship and support to help our heroes find renewed hope and confidence to live happier, healthier lives – with their new, furry friends by their sides.



SCOTT AND MARS

Scott served in the U.S. Army for three years. He lives in Florida and is paired with Mars, a Goldendoodle.

With a heart full of gratitude, I would like to thank American Humane Society staff, trainers, supporters and especially the donors. Because of your generosity, I was afforded the most amazing and life-changing gift anyone could receive, my service dog Mars.

I don't think it's possible to put into words how much Mars has improved my life. I can't imagine living a single day without Mars by my side, watching over me as I navigate through life.

While serving in the US Army, I sustained a TBI that would forever alter my life. I recovered mostly but still lived with long-term symptoms. As the years passed, I noticed a dramatic decline in my cognitive, behavioral and physical symptoms. Simple, everyday tasks became an immense challenge and burden to complete.

When I returned home, I forced myself to go out in public but it was not easy or comfortable. I then found Pups4Patriots, which was one of the best days of my life. For the first time in years, I looked forward to enjoying public activities. Some days are still challenging, but I know my amazing service dog is always by my side.

I think back to my days before Mars and realize it's almost unimaginable how much he has improved and changed the quality of my life. I can't imagine how difficult and challenging life would be without Mars in my life every day.

— Scott

RUSSELL AND NICO

Russell served in the U.S. Army for 10 years and then law enforcement for 20 years. He lives in Indiana and is paired with Nico, a Golden Retriever.

Nico has definitely had a positive effect on my life. We have bonded so well that he seems to know what I need and what I'm feeling without me having to say anything or even do anything to cue him. While at a football game recently, multiple fireworks were unexpectedly shot off after a touchdown. Nico was immediately on his feet, however, instantly let go of his own shock and grounded me, somehow knowing I needed it. My wife watched it from behind and thought it was the coolest thing ever.



I am incredibly grateful for this amazing gift. Nico has given me a renewed sense of living that I was very much struggling to find before meeting him. Thank you again for bringing Nico to me. I cannot begin to express how much he means to me.

— Russell

American Humane Society is honored to be a part of these Pups4Patriots journeys. Thank you for helping make these – and so many more – happy new chapters possible.

TRISH AND COLBY

Trish served in the U.S. Coast Guard for six years. She lives in Florida and is paired with Colby, a Golden Retriever.

Since the day I met Colby, my life has changed in ways I never thought possible.

Living with PTSD, I used to experience panic attacks two to three times a week; night terrors that left me screaming or grinding my teeth and an overwhelming fear of leaving the house alone.

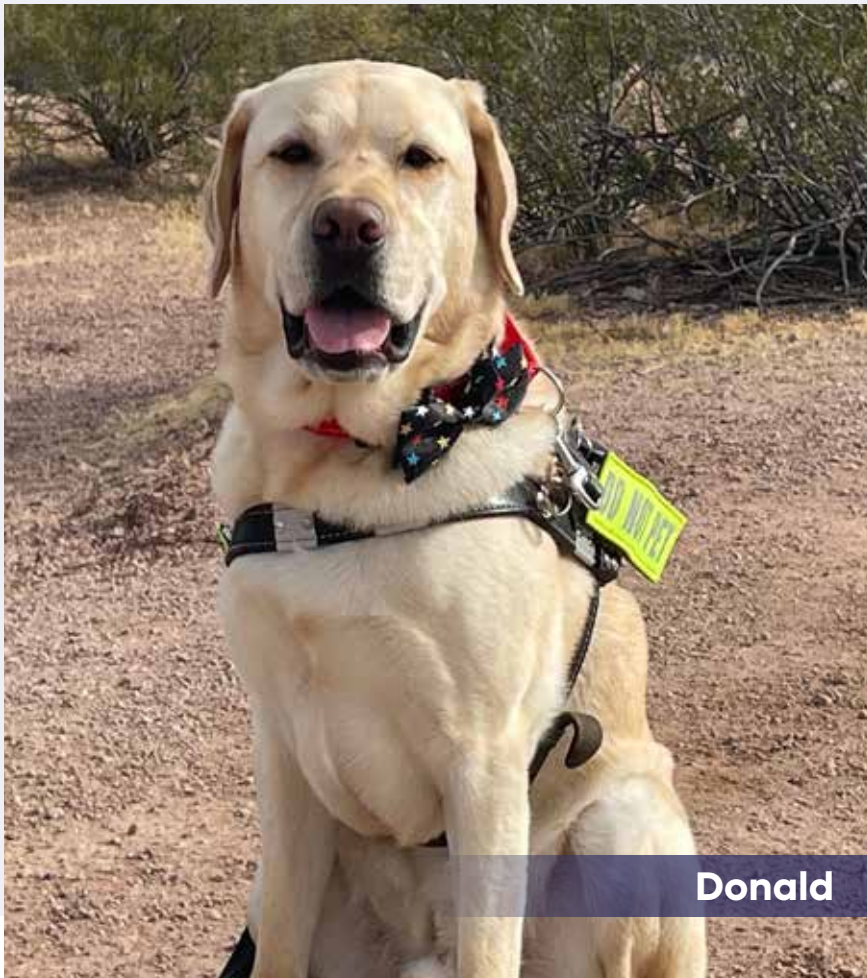
That all began to shift when I matched with Colby through the Pups4Patriots program. From the beginning, I was challenged to step outside my comfort zone. It was terrifying but knowing Colby was by my side gave me the courage to try. On our first night together, he curled up beside me on the bed and fell asleep – I slept peacefully for the first time in a long time.

Colby has become more than a service dog. He's my constant companion, my little buddy and my source of strength. With him, I've rediscovered the world around me. I no longer wait for my husband to accompany me; I go because I want to, and because Colby gives me the confidence to do so.

Colby has helped me reclaim my independence. I'm more active, more engaged and no longer feel trapped by fear. Tasks that once felt insurmountable, like running errands or being in public spaces, are now part of my everyday life. Colby has given me the freedom to live again.

— Trish





Donald



Sgt. Bo

The 15th Annual American Humane Hero Dog Awards[®]

Honoring bravery in action, healing paws that bring comfort and second-chance stories that prove hope is never lost

The American Humane Hero Dog Awards is an annual, nationwide competition that searches for and recognizes America's standout dogs in five categories: therapy dogs, service and guide dogs, military dogs, law enforcement and first responder dogs, and emerging hero dogs. **They are often ordinary dogs who do extraordinary things.**

We are grateful to Waymo for generously sponsoring Sgt. Bo and supporting The Hero Dog Awards Gala.

WAYMO



Lieutenant Dan



K9 Ultra



Harrison



15th Annual American Humane Hero Dog Winner



SGT. BO Therapy

Sgt. Bo recently retired from the Metro Nashville Police Department, where he served as a dedicated therapy dog, **offering comfort to countless children and adults in schools, including following the tragic Covenant School shooting.** He has remained a calming presence, even during his community's darkest hours. Sgt. Bo goes wherever children need him — he has even climbed onto school buses to let frightened children rest against him. Once a stray, his incredible journey from loneliness to heroism is a powerful story of hope and love.



Watch Sgt. Bo's Inspirational Story





See our finalists in the spotlight and the winner crowned on the TODAY Show!



Hero dog finalists



DONALD
Service and Guide / Hearing Dog

Donald is a steadfast guide dog who changed the life of his veteran handler after she lost her central vision following 25 years of military service. With Donald by her side, she confidently travels the country, hosts events and even skis.



LIEUTENANT DAN
Emerging Hero and Shelter Dog

Despite being born with a severe limb deformity and losing both his hind legs and tail, Lieutenant Dan never lost his zest for life. From hiking and swimming to appearing on screen, he shows the world that handicapped dogs are extraordinary and resilient.



K9 ULTRA
Military Dog

K9 Ultra is a Coast Guard explosive detection dog and a true professional. She is fiercely reliable in the field, yet playful and loving at home. She has secured the Boston and Chicago marathons, Super Bowl LIX and both the 2024 Republican and Democratic National Conventions.



HARRISON
Law Enforcement and First Responder Dog

Harrison is one of only a few certified electronics scent detection (ESD) canines in North Carolina. He is specially trained to locate hidden electronic devices and helps uncover digital evidence that is critical to a wide range of criminal investigations.



30
countries



1,000+
projects including motion
pictures, episodic series
and commercials



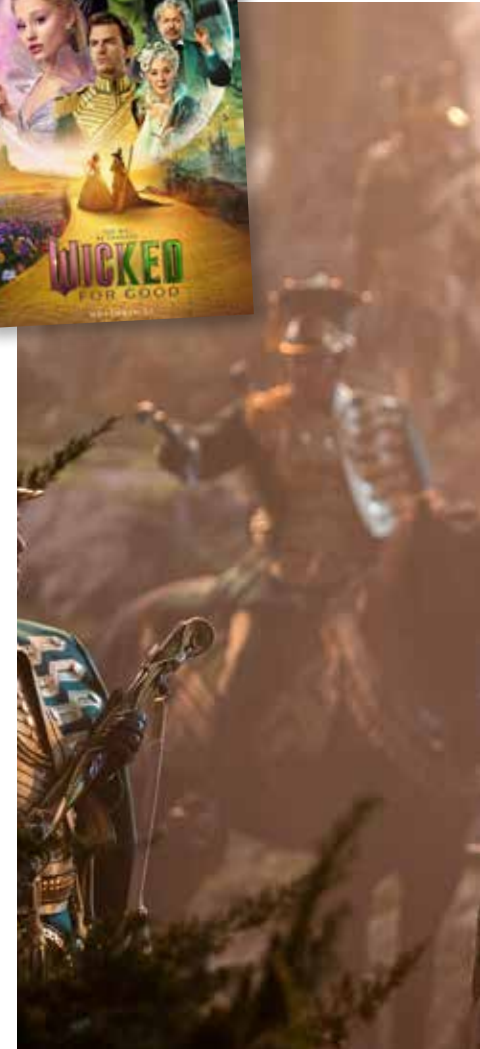
100,000
animals protected

No Animals Were Harmed®

Protecting animal actors since 1940

Animals aren't just an integral part of cinematic storytelling, they can also steal the spotlight! In 2025, our iconic No Animals Were Harmed Program certified some of the year's biggest blockbuster films, TV shows and popular streaming series, helping ensure the safe treatment of animals on productions filmed domestically and throughout the world. All you have to do is watch some of this year's most popular movies to see how our furry friends enhanced a story's authenticity or how animals even played major roles!

These are just a couple examples of the hundreds of productions that we covered in 2025. From the dog-sledding Huskies in "Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning", the farm animals in the bucolic horror hit, "Sinners", to Carrie's cat in HBO's "And Just Like That", rest assured that our team traveled far and wide to help ensure that these amazing animal actors were treated with care and respect on-set.



TONIC

Tonic, the cat from "Caught Stealing" stole almost every scene from co-star Austin Butler. Rumor has it that Butler and Tonic got along like best pals on the set of "Caught Stealing", an action-packed journey through New York City. Although, in the film, it appears as if Tonic was exposed to some intense stunts and set pieces, he was out of harm's way the entire time.



Wicked: For Good

KRYPTO

Krypto, the caped crusader's canine companion in this year's mega-blockbuster "Superman", stole the spotlight and became one of the most talked-about characters in the film. Based on director James Gunn's real-life rescue dog, Krypto was created through a mixture of filming a real dog on green screen and enhancing those images through computer-generated imagery (CGI). They also filmed real dogs that played Krypto on location. **Our No Animals Were Harmed team was there every step of the way to make sure Krypto came to life with the utmost care and consideration.**





85

zoological facilities certified



19

countries



1.1 million

animals protected

Zoos and Aquariums

Advancing animal welfare and conservation worldwide

When you see the American Humane or Global Humane Certified™ mark at a zoo, aquarium or conservation center, you can trust that it represents high standards of animal care, compassion and accountability. As the world's largest certifier of animal welfare, we set the global benchmark for the humane treatment of animals in human care.

Our rigorous standards and welfare criteria are guided by independent Scientific Advisory Committees and informed by some of the most respected leaders in science, animal welfare and conservation. Together, they help to ensure that animals receive exceptional care, enrichment and protection at accredited zoos, aquariums and conservation centers around the world.

Today, our certification program helps safeguard the well-being of nearly 1.1 million animals across 87 leading facilities worldwide, strengthening conservation efforts, elevating industry standards and inspiring a more humane future for wildlife everywhere.

This year, we certified six new facilities under our Humane Certified™ program:

- ✓ Vantara in Jamnagar, India
- ✓ Schönbrunn Zoo in Vienna, Austria
- ✓ SANCCOB Cape Town Centre in Cape Town, South Africa
- ✓ Georgia Safari Conservation Park in Madison, Georgia
- ✓ Forest Preserves of Cook County in Cook County, Illinois
- ✓ Dublin Zoo in Dublin, Ireland

This year, we also re-certified several facilities, including some of the very first to be certified when the Program launched in 2016:

- ✓ Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, Georgia
- ✓ Vancouver Aquarium in Vancouver, Canada
- ✓ Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, Illinois
- ✓ Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- ✓ Mystic Aquarium in Stonington, Connecticut
- ✓ Dolphin Quest in Hawaii, Bermuda and Oahu

We are grateful for their continued commitment to animal welfare and the Humane Certified program.



MEET MARS, A BABY PYGMY HIPPOPOTAMUS FROM TANGANYIKA WILDLIFE PARK!

One of the year's most joyful milestones came from American Humane Certified, Tanganyika Wildlife Park in Kansas with the arrival of a very special new resident, Mars, an adorable baby pygmy hippopotamus born this summer.

More than just impossibly cute, Mars represents a meaningful win for conservation. **Pygmy hippopotamuses are an endangered species, and every healthy birth helps strengthen the future of their population.** With his curious waddles, tiny splashes and playful personality, Mars quickly captured millions of hearts through viral videos, turning smiles into awareness and inspiring people around the world to fall in love with this rare and remarkable species.

And what makes Mars even more extraordinary? Most pygmy hippos born in managed care are female, making this sweet little boy a truly rare treasure and a hopeful symbol for the future of his species.



WELCOME GLOBAL HUMANE SOCIETY'S NEW CHIEF CONSERVATION OFFICER, DR. JON PAUL RODRÍGUEZ

We are thrilled to welcome our new Chief Conservation Officer, Dr. Jon Paul Rodríguez! With over two decades of experience in biodiversity conservation and leadership across Latin America and beyond, **Dr. Rodríguez brings expertise in species protection, policy advocacy and scientific research.** His previous roles include Chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Executive Director of Rainforest Trust.

Dr. Rodríguez will lead efforts to strengthen conservation initiatives, engage communities and inspire global action to preserve endangered species and promote sustainable ecosystems worldwide.

The addition of Dr. Rodríguez to our team underscores our commitment to combining science, education and compassion to address the urgent challenges facing animal welfare and biodiversity worldwide.

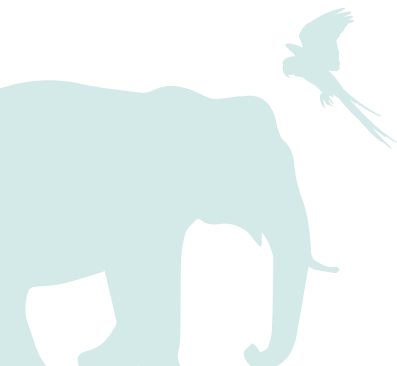


Vantara

Securing the future of wildlife through science-led care

Global Humane Society marked a historic milestone with Vantara this year when it became the first Humane Certified™ facility in India. Vantara is an expansive wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and conservation center founded by Mr. Anant Ambani. Spanning approximately 3,500 acres, Vantara cares for more than 500,000 animals and features state-of-the-art veterinary facilities, including elephant hydrotherapy, MRI suites and surgical theaters that set a new benchmark for wildlife care and conservation.

Vantara stands out for its innovative integrated approach to animal welfare and care that creates long-term pathways for wildlife preservation. Through research, restoration initiatives and collaborative conservation partnerships, Vantara contributes to global biodiversity and helps secure the survival of species for generations to come.

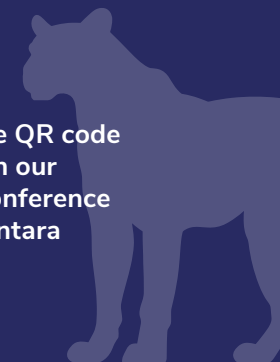


In 2025 we honored Mr. Anant Ambani with the Global Humanitarian Award for Animal Welfare, making him the youngest recipient to receive this prestigious recognition. The award was presented at an international gathering of leaders dedicated to wildlife protection and animal welfare.

Mr. Ambani's compassion, dedication and pioneering vision place him alongside a distinguished lineage of past Global Humanitarian awardees, including Hollywood legends such as Shirley MacLaine, John Wayne and Betty White.



Scan the QR code to watch our press conference with Vantara



Meet Dr. Kathleen M. Dudzinski

2025 Kiessling Prize recipient and pioneer of dolphin communication and behavior



Global Humane Society proudly awarded the 2025 Wolfgang Kiessling International Prize for Species Conservation to Dr. Kathleen M. Dudzinski, Founder and Director of the Dolphin Communication Project, at the annual Gala and Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C.

With more than 30 years dedicated to studying dolphin communication, behavior and acoustics in both wild and managed care environments, **Dr. Dudzinski's groundbreaking research has transformed our understanding of these intelligent marine mammals.** Her innovative work with advanced underwater video-acoustic technology has inspired global conservation efforts and deepened appreciation for the complexity and social intelligence of dolphins.

Dr. Dudzinski is recognized worldwide as a leading expert in cetacean social behavior, with extensive fieldwork in the Bahamas, Japan, Belize and Honduras. She is also a passionate advocate for marine conservation through education, outreach and sustainable ecotourism, ensuring that communities and the next generation are engaged in protecting these remarkable animals.

The Wolfgang Kiessling International Prize for Species Conservation, named for the founder of Loro Parque and a global conservation icon, celebrates individuals whose dedication to biodiversity preservation drives real change for endangered species. With nearly one million species at risk of extinction, honoring leaders like Dr. Dudzinski is more important than ever. Her pioneering research bridges the gap between wild and captive cetacean behavior, advancing science, education and global conservation efforts.

This year's competition drew outstanding candidates from 30 countries, underscoring the worldwide commitment to saving species at risk. Alongside Dr. Dudzinski, the committee recognized these exceptional finalists for their extraordinary contributions to species conservation:



Dr. Danté Fenolio, Vice President of the Center for Conservation & Research at the San Antonio Zoo



Professor Jonah Henri Ratsimbazafy, President of the Madagascar Primate Research Group



Dr. Yadvendradev V. Jhala, Senior Scientist at India's National Centre for Biological Science



Dr. Hilde Vanleeuwe, CEO and Research Associate of WilderThings in Kenya

Since its inception, the Kiessling Prize has spotlighted individuals making tangible, lasting contributions to species protection. Along with this honor, the winner receives a grant to advance their vital work. Applications for the 2026 prize will open in spring 2026.



**GLOBAL HUMANE
CONSERVATION
FUND OF AFRICA**

Global Humane Conservation Fund of Africa

Protecting iconic wildlife and preserving vital ecosystems

This year, the Global Humane Conservation Fund of Africa (GH-CFA), a program of Global Humane Society, significantly expanded its impact through life-saving projects dedicated to conserving, rewilding and safeguarding Africa's wildlife and wilderness landscapes.

Among its most powerful recent efforts, the fund supported the translocation of 42 elephants in South Africa, moving them to protected areas with the space and resources they need to thrive. These translocations represent a vital form of species-led conservation. As ecosystem engineers, elephants shape and sustain the environments around them. By relocating entire family groups, including young calves, we are expanding their natural range and restoring ecological processes that have remained dormant for more than a century.

Through forward-thinking rewilding initiatives, community partnerships and science-led conservation strategies, the work of GH-CFA reflects our enduring commitment to protecting biodiversity, strengthening ecosystems and securing a healthier future for wildlife across the continent.



THE ELEPHANT AND WILDLIFE RESCUE UNIT

One of the most tangible and direct ways GH-CFA saves the lives of endangered wildlife is through **the Elephant and Wildlife Rescue Unit**. This unit provides rapid on-the-ground response and expert veterinary care to animals affected by human-wildlife conflict incidents in Uganda's national parks. Poaching snares, in particular, pose a significant threat to wildlife in Uganda's protected areas.

In one remarkable case, the team responded to an urgent call to help a Rothschild's giraffe, a rare subspecies, that had become caught in a poacher's snare. When the GH-CFA Wildlife Rescue Unit arrived, the giraffe was injured and in pain. The team quickly and safely removed the snare, allowing her to recover and continue roaming freely.

In partnership with the Uganda Conservation Foundation, we help support the Uganda Wildlife Authority's efforts to combat poaching. **The GH-CFA Wildlife Rescue Unit saved, rescued and rehabilitated 131 animals in its first six months** and continues to save even more animals each day.



See GH-CFA in action on our YouTube channel



Learn more about protecting wildlife in Uganda





Meet Robin, an amazing anti-poaching K-9 named after our CEO, Dr. Robin Ganzert! Robin is part of the incredible K-9 team that protects wildlife and biodiversity in Akagera National Park.

K-9s FOR CONSERVATION

Akagera National Park in Rwanda stands as one of the greatest conservation success stories in Africa, transformed from a landscape once threatened by intense poaching into a thriving refuge for wildlife. At the heart of this transformation is the park's K-9 ranger unit, a remarkable team of highly-trained dogs and dedicated handlers who work side by side to protect Akagera's animals and preserve its rich biodiversity.

Through the K-9s for Conservation Program, GH-CFA proudly supports the well-being of the canine heroes who serve on the front lines of wildlife protection. Our commitment helps to ensure that every K-9 ranger, both active and retired, receives the care, respect and support they deserve for their extraordinary service.

By providing support for these brave K-9 rangers' veterinary care and wellness, we help keep these courageous dogs healthy, strong and ready to continue safeguarding one of Africa's most vital wildlife sanctuaries.



animals saved from poaching snares and other threats with the Wildlife Rescue Unit



elephants and 20 rhinos transferred to safety



rewilded cheetahs



acres of conservation landscapes supported by our projects



 **1 billion+**
animals protected

 **4,931**
certified farms or
16,424 locations

 **215**
certified producers



Farm Program

Celebrating 25 years of transforming farm animal welfare

The American Humane Society Farm Program proudly celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2025, marking a significant milestone and a quarter-century of dedication to advancing the welfare of farm animals.

In just 25 years, the Farm Program has certified billions of animals at thousands of facilities committed to the humane treatment of farm animals. The program raises the bar for humane treatment in agriculture with species-specific standards that are regularly reviewed and improved to incorporate the latest science-backed research and best practices.

At American Humane Society, we believe you should be able to easily find humanely raised dairy, meat and egg products. And that is exactly what our Farm Program has worked to accomplish. Our program has grown significantly, and today we work with six of the nation's top ten broiler chicken companies. Additionally, the Global Humane Certified label is now being used on cage free eggs in South America and Lithuania.

In 2025, we increased third-party oversight on farms and ranches and are now certifying 16,424 locations. A growing number of farmers, ranchers and companies are pursuing certification from American Humane Society, **making it the largest independent farm animal welfare certifier globally.** By participating in our certification program, producers offer consumers and retailers confidence that products bearing the American Humane Certified™ label meet rigorous animal welfare standards.



The American Humane Certified Animal Welfare Standards are species-specific and grounded in scientific research. These standards were created based on research and best practices with a team of renowned animal scientists, veterinarians and animal ethicists. Our Scientific Advisory Committee regularly reviews our standards to help ensure they reflect new studies, technological advances and humane handling methods.

As we celebrate this significant 25-year milestone, we extend our deepest gratitude to the farmers, partners, advocates and consumers who have joined us on this journey toward a more humane food system. Together, we have made tremendous strides in improving the lives of billions of farm animals, and with your continued support, we look forward to advancing these efforts even further. We invite you to join us for the next 25 years of progress in animal welfare for farm animals everywhere.



Celebrating 25 years!



Gobble and Waddle make their red carpet appearance during the National Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation.

CELEBRATING A WHITE HOUSE TRADITION

American Humane Certified™ Butterball Turkeys at the National Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation.

In the days leading up to Thanksgiving, we visited a North Carolina turkey farm with Butterball to honor the skilled farmers who make this cherished tradition possible. We then traveled alongside Waddle and Gobble to Washington, D.C., supporting their care on their journey and as they prepared for their appearance at the White House National Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation.

Taking part in this uniquely American celebration allowed us to highlight Butterball's humane treatment of farm animals and the commitment of those who work with them every day.



Gobble and Waddle with a young helper as he feeds turkeys on his family's Butterball farm in North Carolina.



5,100,146
animals protected

Companion Animal Welfare Program

Protecting working and companion animals on land and at sea

In 2025, we established the American Humane Certified™ Companion Animal Welfare Program, bringing pet providers, working animals and live animal providers together under a single, rigorous, evidence-based framework.

Our program helps protect the well-being of animals we welcome into our homes and encounter in everyday life, from family companions to working animals featured in public spaces, demonstrations and performances. **Across every setting, our standards support animal health, safety and well-being, offering peace of mind to the public and accountability for those responsible for their care.**

ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL CHIEF DOG OFFICER

Caring for animals at sea

Rover, Chief Dog Officer for Royal Caribbean International receives care guided by this program. On board *Icon of the Seas*, Rover greets guests, makes her daily rounds and enjoys playtime, with her well-being supported through our standards and independent oversight.



BUDWEISER CLYDESDALES AND DALMATIANS OF ANHEUSER-BUSCH

Caring for America's most recognizable working animals

These animals are cared for under our independently audited welfare standards, reflecting a shared commitment to responsible, science-based care for working animals featured in public events nationwide.

Rigorous standards. Meaningful protection.

In addition to working animals, we certified pet providers including **Quality Marine** and **Josh's Frogs**, representing more than **5.1 million animals** protected through independent, third-party audits.

Together, these certifications reflect a consistent, science-based approach to animal care across a wide range of settings, offering pet parents, animal lovers and the public confidence that animals are treated with care and compassion wherever they live, work and interact with people.





**GLOBAL HUMANE
CERTIFIED
ECOTOURISM**



 **1,000,000+** acres of land for species safeguarded

 **1,200** square miles of water in the Eastern Cape of Africa safeguarded

Ecotourism Program

Advancing wildlife welfare and responsible travel

In response to the growing global demand for wildlife-based travel experiences, we developed the Global Humane Certified™ Ecotourism Program to help ensure that these encounters remain truly respectful of animal life, wild habitats and the ecosystems that sustain them. **Through a rigorous, science-based certification process, the program verifies that participating ecotourism destinations prioritize animal welfare at every level.**

Certified partners are recognized for practices such as:

- ✓ Maintaining safe, respectful distances between guests and wildlife
- ✓ Managing habitats and operations to support animals' natural behaviors and movement
- ✓ Limiting human impact on feeding, breeding and migration patterns
- ✓ Promoting conservation education and responsible visitor conduct

Additionally, many Global Humane Certified Ecotourism groups lead conservation initiatives that extend well beyond the guest experience, supporting wildlife protection, habitat preservation and local communities. Raggy Charters in South Africa is featured here as an example of this work in action.

By upholding high standards and supporting significant conservation initiatives, the Global Humane Certified Ecotourism Program helps ensure that animals continue to live freely in thriving natural environments, while travelers experience the wonder of wildlife in ways that protect and preserve it for future generations.

RAGGY CHARTERS' SEA CRUISES

Responsible ecotourism

Raggy Charters is a marine ecotourism company along South Africa's coastline that places animal welfare and conservation at the center of every experience. Through responsible wildlife encounters, habitat protection and education, Raggy Charters helps safeguard critical marine ecosystems.

By engaging local communities, supporting research partnerships and leading coastal clean-up efforts, Raggy Charters protects natural behaviors and habitats while inspiring visitors to care for the wild places they encounter.



U.N. Should Emphasize Biodiversity in Climate Change Talks

ESBIEZ

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providing humans with clean air and water. And robust ecosystems power modern healthcare. One-fourth of all modern Western medicines, for instance, are sourced from plants found in the Amazon Rainforest. Some even refer to Brazil as the world's largest medicine cabinet.

Biodiversity also provides economic security. Well-balanced habitats support farming and fishing, and tourism. In 2024, travelers visiting Brazil to experience its unique culture and fantastical landscapes added \$170 billion to the national economy — money that supports hotels, restaurants, conservation parks and more. It's a pattern that plays out across much of the world.

In practice, what would putting a renewed emphasis on protecting biodiversity look like?

First, we need to be stronger champions of wildlife. In the United States, the preservation of plants and animals is primarily overseen by the Endangered Species Act. The landmark law, passed in the 1970s, provides special protections for at-risk species and their habitats. Similar laws are sprinkled throughout the rest of the world, including in Brazil.

However, persistent pressures from special interests are eroding these biodiversity protections in the name of economic development. One recent example being U.S. policymakers' move to exclude endangered species habitats from federal government protections — a change that would significantly gut the ESA. Policymakers worldwide should be exploring opportunities to expand, rather than weaken, safeguards for endangered species.

Second, conservationists should be open to new, cutting-edge strategies to restore biodiversity in areas facing species decline. A process called "rewilding" is a prime example. Drawing on decades of wildlife research, this bold approach repopulates habitats with native plants and animals to support well-balanced food chains.



February 5, 2026

I'm a vet. Pet vaccine skepticism is barking up the wrong tree.

BY THOMAS EDLING

A dangerous form of medical skepticism is no longer confined to human health — it has quietly spread to America's pets. As unwarranted doubt about vaccines grows across the country, more pet owners are considering skipping routine immunizations.

That exposes dogs and cats to preventable, often deadly, diseases. The consequences are already being felt in veterinary clinics across the country.

A 2023 survey found that 52% of pet owners have negative views of dog vaccines, with more than one-third believing the false claim that vaccines could cause canine autism. Sentiment around the lifesaving tool has almost certainly soured further since that poll was conducted.

Vaccine skepticism has mutated to a new form. The reemergence of measles, a virus thought to have been effectively eradicated among Americans, underscores what is at stake. There were outbreaks across the country in 2025, including in Texas and South Carolina.

The common thread? It's occurring in areas where human vaccination rates are sliding. Now, the United States is set to lose its official measles elimination status, which we've had since 2000.

While pet infections are not monitored as closely as human virus cases, it's not difficult to imagine a similar trend playing out among animals. The same people who are persuaded by a podcast or an X post to skip vaccinations for themselves or their children are likely to apply the same misguided logic to their dogs and cats.

Anecdotal, I am hearing more and more stories from veterinarians who are forced to justify the value of pet vaccinations to their clients.

On this topic, the science is settled. Like in humans, mountains of research conducted over decades prove that pet inoculations meaningfully prevent common, often fatal, diseases in dogs and cats.

Dog, cat vaccines offer long-lasting protection with few side effects.

Studies consistently find that vaccinated pets are strongly protected against illnesses like parvovirus, distemper and panleukopenia, among others.

Early-life shots are particularly important because maternal antibodies wane. Staged vaccine schedules for puppies and kittens are specifically designed to cover this high-risk window.

Without these timely doses, it's reasonable to conclude that young animals will experience the highest mortality rates from vaccine-preventable infections.

The protection is also long-lasting. In one classic controlled study, cats vaccinated for panleukopenia — which attacks otherwise healthy cells in places like the intestines, bone marrow and lymph nodes — maintained immunity for more than seven years.

The health benefits of immunizations carry minimal risk. Large cohort studies involving more than a million animals report adverse side effects in only 0.4% of dogs and 0.5% of cats.

The few negative reactions that occur are typically mild, such as lethargy, a mild fever or localized swelling. Serious, long-term complications are exceedingly more rare, by orders of magnitude.

Human lives are at stake here, too.

A well-immunized pet population also benefits broader public health efforts. The rabies vaccine for dogs and cats is the single most effective way to prevent human deaths from the virus.

Modeling and epidemiological studies show that vaccinating roughly 70% of canines can dramatically reduce or locally eliminate dog-spread rabies, which otherwise kills thousands of people every year globally. One study suggests a pet-focused rabies reduction strategy is also more economical in the short run than reactively treating people who have been exposed.

Responsible pet owners want what is best for their furry family members. While misinformation about modern medicine has gained traction, it's important to know the facts. Vaccines save lives — for pets and the people who care for them.

Dr. Thomas Edling is the chief veterinary officer and animal ethicist at American Humane Society.

Visit our
newsroom to
read more



The Miami Herald

June 10, 2025

Hurricane evacuation plans must include pets Floridians won't leave behind | Opinion

GANZERT

As the hurricane season upon us, the Federal Emergency Agency (FEMA) is in limbo. The House has been critical of the agency's work with Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, stating that President Donald Trump believes the agency has "failed."

The proposal to shift funding from Uncle Sam to local agencies has sparked controversy in Congress. But regardless of how the country's emergency apparatus is reorganized, saving lives must be the goal. That includes helping both humans and animals in the eye of the storm.

Animals haven't always been part of government disaster relief — or preparing for — natural disasters, but thousands of pets were lost, abandoned or killed during Hurricane Andrew in 1992, which hit South Florida. More than 100,000 pets were lost in New Orleans as Hurricane Katrina barreled through the Gulf Coast in 2005.

Learning from those Gulf Coast tragedies, the federal government took action. Bipartisan legislation was passed requiring states seeking federal disaster relief to include pets and service animals in their disaster plans. The law — called the PETS Act — also directly funds rescue, care for, and shelter for animals.

Incorporating pets into the fold of the nation's disaster response framework was a major step toward improving animal welfare. Today, it's also credited with saving human lives.

A survey by PetSmart Charities reveals that more than 70% of pet owners would ignore an evacuation order if their furry family member couldn't come along. And 80% said they would give up their spot at an emergency shelter if pets were not allowed.

Translation: Americans are now more likely to follow safety protocols and evacuate danger zones when their pets are part of the plan.

Building on that legacy, we — as American animal lovers — can do more. Our elected officials in Washington could amend the PETS Act to expand options for animal-inclusive housing following natural disasters.

For example, the government could offer financial incentives to hotels and motels that temporarily accept guests with pets. State legislatures could pursue similar policies in tandem.

Meanwhile, pet owners themselves can take preemptive steps to improve pet safety during hurricanes. Preparing a pet disaster kit ahead of time is essential.

That kit should include a two-week supply of food, water and medications, along with a leash, bedding and comfort items like toys. Veterinary records, current photos, and microchip information should be stored in a watertight container to aid in reunification if a pet is separated during the chaos.

Details about the future of FEMA remain uncertain. But with hurricane season already here, the White House and Congress must come together to create a robust and inclusive disaster response framework.

The lives of Americans — both human and animal — depend on it.

Robin Ganzert is the president and CEO of American Humane Society.

Historic Milestones



1877

American Humane founded as the country's first national humane organization



1915

Launched Be Kind to Animals Week®



1936

Called for an international treaty to stop polluting the seas



1958

Advocated for the Humane Slaughter Act



1969

Supported the passage of the Endangered Species Conservation Act



1971

Advocated for the Marine Mammal Protection Act



1978

Launched Adopt-A-Dog Month®



1991

Developed guidelines for animal shelters to foster pets of military reservists sent to Operation Desert Storm



2000

Created the first independent farm animal welfare certification program

1878

Exposed and began fighting inhumane conditions in slaughterhouses



1916

Rescued 68,000 wounded horses a month during WWI



1940

Launched "No Animals Were Harmed®" program to protect animals on movie sets

Lobbied to protect the bald eagle, which President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law



1966

Supported the passage of Animal Welfare Act



1970

Advocated for spay/neuter programs and drew critical attention to the emergence of "puppy mills"



1975

Launched Adopt-A-Cat Month®



1985

Advocated for anti-dogfighting in Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana



1992

Deployed during Hurricane Andrew to save animals in Florida, Louisiana and Texas



2001

Following 9/11, deployed to help protect hundreds of search-and-rescue dogs





2005

Deployed to help animal victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma



2011

Launched the Hero Dog Awards® to honor extraordinary dogs



2015

Advocated for return of Military Working Dogs in 2016 National Defense Authorization Act



2017

Deployed during Hurricane Harvey to save animals in Louisiana and Texas



2020

To help animals during the COVID-19 pandemic, American Humane delivered 1 million meals to shelters
Aided animals left homeless by the California wildfires



2022

Launched the American Humane Certified™ Pet Provider program
Deployed to Hurricane Ian



2024

Broke ground on the American Humane Society Sanctuary in Florida



2025

Deployed during the LA Wildfires to save animals in California



2027

American Humane Society will celebrate 150 years!

2009

The majority of cage-free egg producers became American Humane Certified™



2014

Assisted with the second largest dog-fighting raid in U.S. history



2016

Launched the Lois Pope LIFE Center for Military Affairs
Launched Humane Conservation™ Program



2019

American Humane aided animals affected by Hurricane Dorian, the Oklahoma floods, and the Australian wildfires



2021

Deployed to help animals in the path of Hurricane Ida and the California wildfires



2023

Launch of Global Humane Certified® and Global Humane Tourism™ reaching six continents
Launched Working Animals™ Program



2024

Global Humane Society expands to South Africa Office



2025

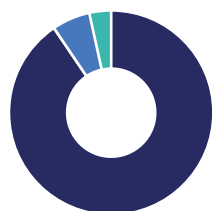
Global Humane Society expands to Brussels office



American Humane Summary Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position

	For the Year Ended June 30,		
	2025	2024	2023
ASSETS			
Current assets	\$ 8,150,140	\$ 8,429,998	\$ 7,057,239
Investments	19,660,596	18,521,742	15,923,742
Property and equipment, net	5,870,634	7,375,608	3,603,401
Operating Right of Use Asset	2,092,445	2,422,956	2,741,603
Capitalized software, net	1,003,183	136,537	173,573
Long term pledges and accounts receivable	2,696,300	1,851,500	346,000
Beneficial interests in charitable trusts	6,471,330	6,067,282	5,632,450
Investments held for endowment	738,457	738,457	738,457
Total assets	\$ 46,683,085	\$ 45,544,080	\$ 36,216,465
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities	\$ 3,758,191	\$ 5,411,116	\$ 4,207,341
Non-current liabilities	9,257,441	9,541,972	4,653,462
Total liabilities	\$ 13,015,632	\$ 14,953,088	\$ 8,860,803
NET ASSETS			
Without donor restrictions	\$ 13,890,736	\$ 14,542,940	\$ 16,152,158
With donor restrictions	19,776,717	16,048,052	11,203,504
Total net assets	\$ 33,667,453	\$ 30,590,992	\$ 27,355,662
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 46,683,085	\$ 45,544,080	\$ 36,216,465



	2025	2024	2023
Program services	87%	88%	90%
Fundraising	9%	9%	7%
General administration	4%	4%	3%
	100%	100%	100%

Statement of Activities

	For the Year Ended June 30,		
	2025	2024	2023
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Contributions and sponsorships	\$ 54,695,342	\$ 53,531,343	\$ 51,742,474
Grants	7,592,911	5,187,681	5,993,771
Royalty Income and Service Fees	6,587,811	6,344,038	6,020,854
Event fees	224,049	213,568	213,429
Investment Income	2,846,660	3,170,715	2,032,198
Other	99,133	15,836	4,209
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 72,045,906	\$ 68,463,181	\$ 66,006,935
EXPENSES			
Program services			
Humane Conservation	\$ 8,241,622	\$ 5,896,911	\$ 6,520,017
Humane Hollywood	11,519,762	9,983,062	11,491,985
Humane Rescue	14,809,449	4,658,424	7,604,957
Center for Military Affairs	7,805,413	6,269,859	19,184,815
Farm Animal Program	6,749,378	13,687,995	6,620,868
Other Programs	10,507,118	16,603,647	6,187,393
Total Program Services	\$ 59,632,742	\$ 57,099,898	\$ 57,610,035
Supporting Services			
Philanthropic and Fundraising	\$ 6,234,930	\$ 5,682,951	\$ 4,559,703
General Administration	3,101,773	2,445,002	2,099,090
Total Supporting Services	9,336,703	8,127,953	6,658,793
Total Expenses	\$ 68,969,445	\$ 65,227,851	\$ 64,268,828
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	3,076,461	3,235,330	1,738,107
NET ASSETS			
Beginning of Year	30,590,992	27,355,662	25,617,555
End of Year	\$ 33,667,453	\$ 30,590,992	\$ 27,355,662

For a complete copy of American Humane Society's audited financial statements for June 30, 2023 and 2024, please visit [AmericanHumane.org](https://www.AmericanHumane.org) or write to: American Humane Society, Finance Department, Suite 360, 1400 16th Street, NW, Washington DC 20036

Introducing the Science and Standards Team

Driving the future of animal welfare

In early 2025, we proudly launched our Science and Standards Department. This innovative team strengthens the impact of our programs by overseeing expert Scientific Advisory Committees (SAC), advancing animal welfare research and ensuring standards continue to evolve.



By integrating research, education and expert guidance, we're setting the standard for animal care — helping to ensure the well-being of working animals, zoo residents and animal actors while building trust with caretakers, industry leaders and consumers.

Dr. Tom Edling, Chief Veterinary Officer
and Animal Ethicist



The Science and Standards Department also collaborates with academic and external partners to advance research, support grants and strengthen humane education. Through training and outreach, it helps ensure clarity, consistency and trust across our work, reinforcing our commitment to science-based progress and the humane treatment of all animals.



Scientific Advisory Committees

Delivering expert guidance across every program

We rely on Scientific Advisory Committees across our programs to provide expert guidance and oversight. These distinguished groups of veterinarians, scientists, ethicists and subject-matter experts help review guidelines, policies and ethics, evaluate emerging research and inform best practices. Their collective expertise helps ensure our standards remain rigorous, science-based and responsive to the evolving needs of animals and the people who care for them.



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Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Alaska Anchorage

Jason Apple, MS, PhD
Chair and Professor, Department of Animal Science & Veterinary Technology, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Greg Archer, MS, PhD
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Poultry Science, Texas A&M University

Richard Blatchford, MA, PhD
Assistant Cooperative Extension Specialist, Department of Animal Science, University of California-Davis

Candace Croney, MS, PhD
Director, Center for Animal Welfare Science; Professor,

Animal Behavior and Well-being, Purdue University

Terry Engle, MS, PhD
Professor, Department of Animal Science, Colorado State University

Temple Grandin, MS, PhD
Professor, Department of Animal Science, Colorado State University; Consultant and designer of livestock handling facilities, Grandin Livestock Handling Systems, Inc.

Jesse Grimes, MS, PhD
Professor and Extension Turkey Specialist, Prestage Department of Poultry Science, North Carolina State University

Donald Hoenig, VMD
MIM Consulting

Darrin Karcher, MS, PhD
Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Animal Science, Purdue University

Lester Khoo, VMD, PhD
Professor of Aquatic Animal Health, College of Veterinary Medicine,

Mississippi State University

Guy Loneragan, BVSc, MS, PhD
Dean and Professor, School of Veterinary Medicine, Texas Tech University

Maja Makagon, MS, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Animal Science, University of California-Davis

Carissa Odland, DVM, MS
Clinical Assistant Professor in Large Animal Veterinary Medicine, South Dakota State University

Thomas Parsons, VMD, PhD, ACAW
Professor & Director, Swine Research and Training Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

Stephen Reichley, DVM, PhD, CertAqV
Assistant Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, Mississippi State University

James Reynolds, DVM, MPVM
Dairy Consultant

Stephen Smith, MS, DVM, PhD
Professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, Virginia Tech University

Paul Thompson, PhD
Professor Emeritus, Department of Philosophy, Michigan State University

Cassandra Tucker, PhD
Professor, Department of Animal Science, University of California

Kurt Vogel, MS, PhD
Professor, Department of Animal and Food Science, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Shawna Weimer, MS, PhD
Assistant Professor & Director of the Center for Food Animal Well-being, Department of Poultry Science, University of Arkansas

Ann Wilkinson, DVM, MBA
Consultant, Dairy Welfare and One Health

Aquarium

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Veterinarian, Co-Owner, Napa Valley Equine

Alina Vale, DVM, MS
Consultant, Veterinary Forensics



Kelly Störmer
Nonprofit executive for veteran-serving organizations, U.S. Navy veteran

Zenithson Ng, DVM, MS, Dipl ABVP
Clinical assistant professor of Community Practice at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine

Andrea Watts, MS, MA, LPCC

Guardian Wellness Owner/ Director

Kerri Rodriguez, PhD
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David Dutton, DVM, DACVS
Professor of Large Animal Surgery, Texas Tech University, School of Veterinary Medicine

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Joseph Garner, Ph.D.
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Gregory Lewbart, MS, VMD, DACZM, DECAM (ZHM)
Professor of Aquatic, Wildlife and Zoological Medicine, North Carolina State University

Mark Mitchell, DVM, Ph.D.
Director of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, Louisiana State University

Claudia Sonder, DVM
Veterinarian, Co-Owner, Napa Valley Equine

Carissa Wickens, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Equine Specialist, University of Florida, Department of Animal Sciences



Lara Croft, DVM, DACZM
Veterinary Scientist, Morris Animal Foundation

Ramiro Isaza, DVM, MS, MPH, DACZM, DECZM
Veterinary Consultant, Zoo and Wildlife Medicine,

Professor of Zoological Medicine (Retired), University of Florida

Xavier Manteca Vilanova, Ph.D.
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James F. McBain, DVM
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Executive Vice President and Chief Training Officer, Karen Pryor Clicker Training

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Susan G. Friedman, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Psychology, Utah State University

Gail C. Golab, Ph.D., DVM, MACVSc, DACAW
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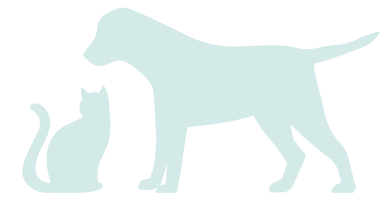
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Kathleen Dudzinski, Ph.D.
Director, Dolphin Communication Project

Erin Ivory, MA CEO
C The Future

Grey Stafford, Ph.D. Physiology and Behavior Consultant, Grand Canyon University

Michael Stoskopf, DVM, Ph.D., DACZM
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Our board members, ambassadors and supporters bring extensive experience and deep commitment to our work protecting animals worldwide.

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Betty White

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Celebrity ambassador public service announcements

Our Public Service Announcements feature iconic voices who believe in protecting animals and the power of the human-animal bond.

Watch these inspiring messages on our YouTube channel and share them with friends and family to help spread awareness of the life-saving work of American Humane Society.



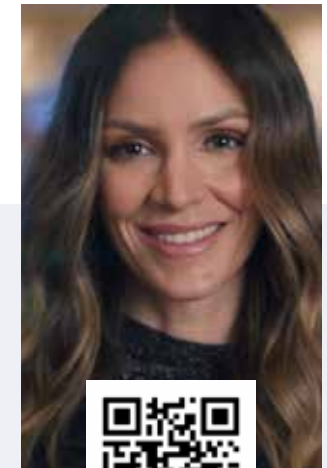
PRISCILLA PRESLEY



CHAKA KHAN



MONTEL WILLIAMS



KATHARINE MCPHEE

A woman with long dark hair is seen from the side, wearing a black baseball cap and a black t-shirt. The cap has the American Humane Society logo and text. The t-shirt also features the organization's name and tagline. She is holding a small, light-colored puppy with dark spots. The background is a bright, outdoor setting, possibly a shelter or rescue center.

Help Us Create a More Compassionate World for Animals

Since 1877, American Humane Society has led the way in the rescue, care and protection of animals. Today, our work impacts more than 1.7 billion animals every year – making us the most effective animal welfare organization in the world.

Whether it's rescuing animals from harm, helping heroes heal, or setting the global standard for humane treatment, you can help bring us closer to a world where all animals are treated with the compassion they deserve.

Join us in this global movement — and help create a better world for all animals.

To learn more or make a gift, please visit americanhumane.org, email donors@americanhumane.org or call 866-242-1877.





WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE

1400 16th Street NW, Suite 360, Washington, DC 20036
800-227-4645, info@americanhumane.org

PALM BEACH OFFICE

251 Royal Palm Way, Suite 450, Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-537-5887

WEST COAST OFFICE

12711 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 495, Studio City, CA 91604
818-501-0123

UNITED KINGDOM OFFICE

86-90 Paul Street, London EC2A 4NE, United Kingdom
+44 20 8156 6471

BELGIUM OFFICE

Square de Meeûs 37, 4th Floor, 1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 791 7500

GLOBAL HUMANE CONSERVATION FUND OF AFRICA

Bay Suites 1A, Humewood Road Suite 1B,
Humeraal, Gqeberha, Eastern Cape, 6001

www.AmericanHumane.org






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